

NOTES ON CHILEAN PALPIMANIDAE
(ARACHNIDA, ARANEAE)

Norman I. Platnick

Department of Entomology
The American Museum of Natural History
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York, New York 10024

ABSTRACT

Fernandezina birabeni Zapfe is transferred to *Otiothops* and renamed *O. lanus* because of a resulting secondary homonymy. A revised key to the genera of Otiothopinae is presented.

Through the courtesy of Dr. Evert I. Schlinger and Mr. Charles E. Griswold of the University of California at Berkeley, I have recently had the opportunity to examine a small collection of Palpimanidae from Chile. Included in this collection was a male of the species described by Zapfe (1961) as *Fernandezina birabeni*, collected from an area very close to the type locality of that species. In a recent revision of the Otiothopinae (Platnick, 1975), I indicated that this species was probably misplaced in *Fernandezina*, but as no specimens were available the correct placement remained uncertain. The dorsally expanded femur and short tarsus of the first leg as well as the short abdominal scutum of the male clearly exclude the species from *Fernandezina*; genitalic structure indicates that it actually belongs to the *amazonicus* group of *Otiothops*, which is widely distributed in South America. However, the widely separated posterior median eyes and reduced claw tufts are characters found in no other known *Otiothops*, and the species will key out to *Anisaedus* in the published key (Platnick, 1975, p. 4). A revised key to the otiothopine genera is included below to reflect the consequent enlargement of the generic concept of *Otiothops*. The extreme divergence of the Chilean fauna from that of the remainder of South America noted by Levi (1967) in the Theridiidae seems also to be the case in the Palpimanidae, and it is to be hoped that the unique Chilean spider fauna will receive increased attention from arachnologists in the future.

REVISED KEY TO THE GENERA OF OTIOTHOPINAE

- 1a. Femur I only slightly expanded dorsally; tarsus I nearly as long as tibia I; abdominal scutum of male covering at least half of dorsum . . . *Fernandezina*
- 1b. Femur I greatly expanded dorsally; tarsus I much shorter than tibia I; abdominal scutum of male covering no more than a quarter of dorsum 2
- 2a(1b). Posterior median eyes separated by three or more times their diameter *Anisaedus*
- 2b. Posterior median eyes separated by two times their diameter or less . *Otiothops*

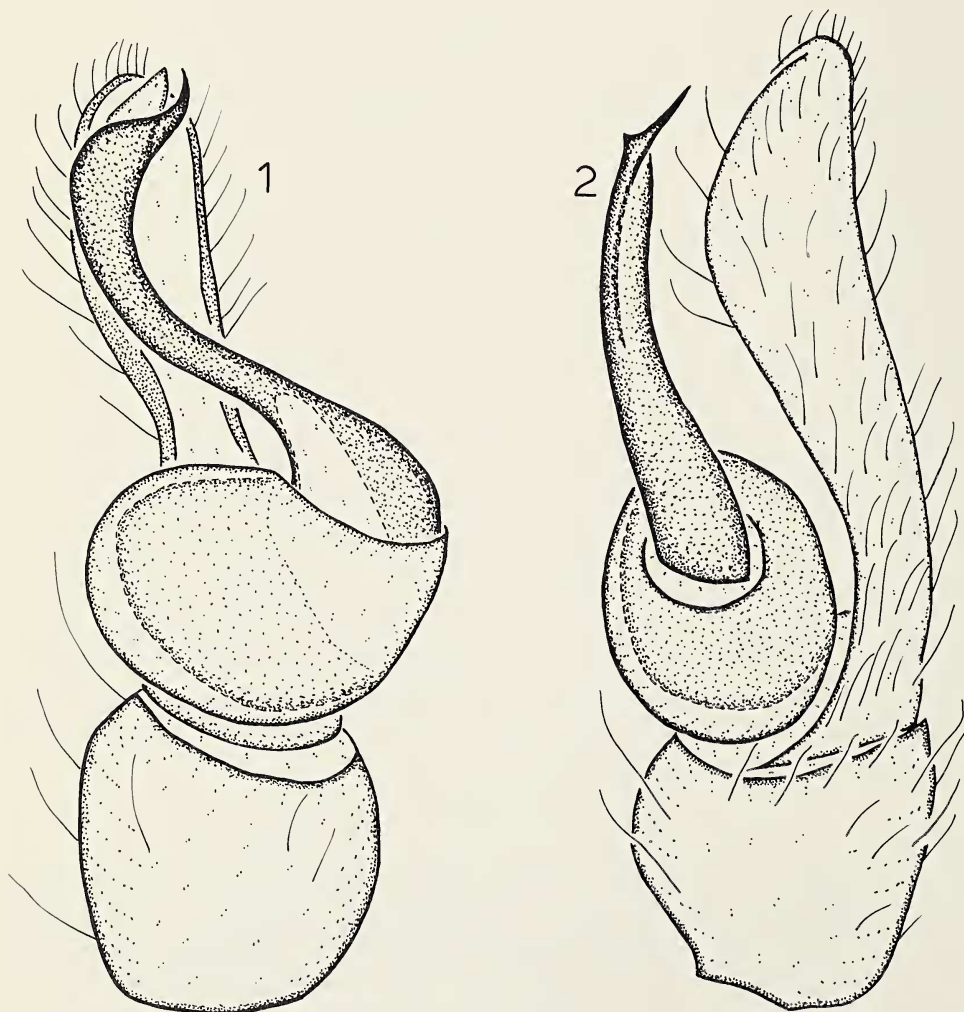
Otiothops lanus, new name

Figs. 1, 2

Fernandezina birabeni Zapfe, 1961, p. 141, figs. 1-7 (Male holotype and female paratype from Quebrada de la Plata, Santiago, Chile, may be in the Centro de Investigaciones Zoológicas, Santiago, unavailable). Platnick, 1975, p. 27. Preoccupied in *Otiothops* by *O. birabeni* Mello-Leitão (1945).

Etymology.—The new specific name is an arbitrary combination of letters.

Diagnosis.—The male of *Otiothops lanus* can be easily distinguished from all other palpimanids by the broad, subterminally originating embolus (Figs. 1, 2). The species is probably closest to *Otiothops loris* Platnick, described from Peru, which has a more elongate embolar tip.



Figs. 1, 2.—Male palp of *Otiothops lanus*: 1, ventral view; 2, retrolateral view.

Male.—Total length 2.66 mm. Carapace 1.21 mm long, 0.90 mm wide. Femur I 0.94 mm long, 0.45 mm high. Cephalic area moderately elevated. Posterior median eyes separated by almost twice their diameter. Abdomen with scattered brownish purple patches on pale brown background. Claw tufts reduced to a few setae surrounding onychium. Palp with globose tibia, long thin cymbium slightly expanded below tip, and retrolaterally prolonged bulb with visible reservoir. Embolus originating retrolaterally and below tip of bulb, expanded at apex, with sclerotized whiplike tip and recessed unsclerotized lobe (Figs. 1, 2).

Female.—Unavailable; described by Zapfe (1961).

Material examined.—Chile: Santiago: Quebrada de la Plata, La Rinconada, near Maipú, latitude 33°30' S, longitude 70°55' W (11 October 1966; E. I. Schlinger), 1 male, deposited in the Entomology Museum, University of California, Berkeley.

Anisaedus pellucidas Platnick

Anisaedus pellucidas Platnick, 1975, p. 26, figs. 76-79, 81-84, map 5.

New Record.—Chile: Atacama: Bahía de Copiapó, coastal dunes, elevation 45 m. (5 October 1966; M. E. Irwin), 1 female, deposited in the Entomology Museum, University of California, Berkeley.

Note.—Two juvenile specimens from this collection taken in Atacama and Antofagasta Provinces probably belong to this species as well; *Otiothops lanus* and *Anisaedus pellucidas* are the only palpimanids known from Chile.

LITERATURE CITED

- Levi, H. W. 1967. The theridiid spider fauna of Chile. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. 136:1-20.
Mello-Leitão, C. F. de. 1945. Arañas de Misiones, Corrientes y Entre Ríos. Rev. Mus. La Plata, New Ser., zool. 4:213-302.
Platnick, N. I. 1975. A revision of the palpimanid spiders of the new subfamily Otiothopinae (Araneae, Palpimanidae). Amer. Mus. Novitates 2562:1-32.
Zapfe, H. 1961. La familia Palpimanidae en Chile. Invest. Zool. Chilenas 7:141-144.